

**DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**



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www.dphhs.mt.gov

TO: Vaccines for Children (VFC) Providers

FROM: Elizabeth LeLacheur, VFC/Vaccine Manager
Montana Immunization Program

DATE: April 9, 2010

SUBJECT: **Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV), Rotarix, Injectable Polio Vaccine (IPV) and H1N1 vaccine return, and Healthy MT Kids vs. Healthy MT Kids Plus**

Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV)

Pprevnar13™ is the only PCV available. Originally we asked you to use all your doses of Pprevnar™ before ordering more. However, the manufacturer has agreed to replace these doses with Pprevnar13™ at McKesson.

Please place an order for Pprevnar13™ if you have not already done so. You should begin using Pprevnar13™ as soon as you receive it. We have ordered McKesson return labels for all providers to return any unused doses to McKesson. We are requesting that you return your unused doses Friday, May 7th. If you have no Pprevnar™ to return, please use to return other vaccines at a later date.

Rotarix

Remember Rotarix® (2-dose rotavirus vaccine) is simply being studied. While you have been asked to cease using it for now, it has not been recalled. Please store it in your refrigerator until a determination is made regarding its use. Do not return this vaccine. You may, however, order some Rota Teq® (3-dose rotavirus vaccine) to use in the meantime. Rota Teq® has been placed on federal allocation, but there appears to be plenty of vaccine to stock reasonable orders.

IPV

The use of single antigen IPV has greatly decreased with the use of Kinrix™, DTaP/IPV. Therefore, the wastage level of IPV has greatly increased. We are trying to make sure that there is some single antigen IPV available in every community. We may ask you to get a dose or two from your local health department or refer such children to the health department in an effort to keep our vaccine wastage low. If you still have a large amount of single antigen IPV and single antigen DTaP available, we will ask you to deplete this supply before ordering Kinrix™.

H1N1 Vaccine Return

The Centers for Disease Control is in the process of obtaining a contractor to receive expired H1N1 vaccine. For now, please remove the expired H1N1 from your refrigerator and await further instructions for its return to a national contractor. Do not return to McKesson or Montana DPHHS.

Healthy Montana Kids (HMK) and Healthy Montana Kids Plus (HMK Plus)

We have received some questions about the recent change in names for the Medicaid and CHIP programs and eligibility for VFC vaccine.

Healthy Montana Kids (new name for CHIP) – not eligible for VFC/state vaccine, must use privately purchased vaccine

Healthy Montana Kids Plus (new name for Medicaid) – VFC eligible

Please note that the eligibility criteria changed for both programs. Some children that were on HMK are now on HMK Plus and some may have switched from HMK Plus to HMK (due to a change in their eligibility). As a result this would change a child's eligibility for VFC. In addition, the cards look very similar, so please be sure to check closely.

If you have any questions, please contact Liz at 444-0277 or Carolyn at 444-2675.